GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3347
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
Farm Schools
Patole Shri Nanabhau Falgunrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that information regarding schemes of agriculture sector is not reaching farmers especially in backward and remote areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is considering to start farm schools in various States inspite of sufficient staff for agricultural works so that the information regarding agricultural schemes reaches farmers, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether a scheme is under consideration of the Government to interact directly with the farmers, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other various steps taken by the Government to provide agriculture related information to the farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): No, Madam. As per para 3.3 of Guidelines of the Scheme 'Support to State Extension programme for Extension Reforms', Farm School is one of the eligible activity which is set up in achiever farmers' field to provide season long technological training to fellow farmers.

(d) & (e): The Ministry of Agriculture has been implementing various Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes to assist farmers. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms" (ATMA) programme has been strengthened and rejuvenated during 2014-15 especially manpower support at State, District and Block levels, enhanced connectivity and mobility at various levels and strengthening the mechanism for information dissemination at village level through the

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institution of one farmer friend for every two villages to have direct interaction with the Farmers at the grass root level. Another component of extension initiative is the Mass Media Scheme which aims to reach out to farmers (including backward and remote areas) through electronic and print media. The Kisan Call Centres (KCC) have also been upgraded in terms of technology, enhancement of seats and effective monitoring. KCCs are accessed directly by the farmers for receiving real time information. Besides, ICT tools are being extensively used to reach out to the farmers. DAC has developed a number of portals, applications and websites for the benefit of farmers. Mobile apps viz. Kisan Suvidha, Pusa Krishi, Agrimarket, PMFBY etc., Short Messaging Services, Farmers portal have also been launched in for the benefit of farmers.

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